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New Patent Claims

- 10 1. A supporting structure for a motor vehicle, in particular an automobile, having a longitudinal beam arrangement (2), to at least one longitudinal end (3) of which a bumper arrangement (4) is attached, which has a crossbeam, (7) - the crossbeam (7) in an axial direction resting against the longitudinal beam arrangement (2) by way of two longitudinal beam parts (12),
15 - the longitudinal beam parts (12) being attached to a central section (11) of the crossbeam (7) which is located at a distance from the ends (8) of the crossbeam (7),
20 - the longitudinal beam parts (12) at their ends remote from the crossbeam (7) being attached by way of a bearing bracket (13) to one another and to the longitudinal beam arrangement (2),
25 - the bearing bracket (13) taking the form of a crash element, which exercises an energy-absorbing effect in the event of crash,
characterized in that

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- the bumper arrangement (4) has a bending beam (5) attached to the ends (8) of the crossbeam (7),
 - the bending beam (5), at least in the central section (11), rests on the crossbeam (7) by way of at least one energy-absorbing foam body (10).
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2. The supporting structure as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the longitudinal beam parts (12) run parallel to the longitudinal direction (6) of the vehicle and at a distance from one another in the horizontal direction.

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 3. The supporting structure as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the longitudinal beam arrangement (2) is arranged essentially in the center of the vehicle.

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 4. The supporting structure as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, **characterized in that** the bending beam (5) is supported at its ends on the crossbeam (7) such that it can rotate about vertical axes.

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 5. The supporting structure as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, **characterized in that** the bending beam (5) is attached exclusively at its ends to the crossbeam (7).

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